

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method of laser deposition using a laser and deposition wire, the method characterised in that the original wire is heated and cross-sectionally reconfigured to increase the lateral dimension of the presented wire for greater overlap with a presented beam from the laser which melts the wire for deposition, wherein the wire comprises a deposition powder core held within a retaining sheath.

12. (Previously Presented) A method of laser deposition using a laser and deposition wire, the method characterised in that the original wire is heated and cross-sectionally reconfigured to increase the lateral dimension of the presented wire for greater overlap with a presented beam from the laser which melts the wire for deposition, wherein at least a presented surface of the wire is knurled or otherwise roughened to reduce reflectivity of the presented beam, and wherein the knurling or roughening of the wire is conducted prior to reconfiguration.